

Applicant: Harry J. Buncke

For: SURGICAL METHODS USING ONE-WAY SUTURE

VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) AND 1.27(b))
SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

We hereby declare that we are the owners of the above-identified patent application and constitute a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b).

We hereby declare that we qualify as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third-party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

We hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention, entitled SURGICAL METHODS USING ONE-WAY SUTURE, by inventor Harry J. Buncke, described in the specification filed herewith.

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

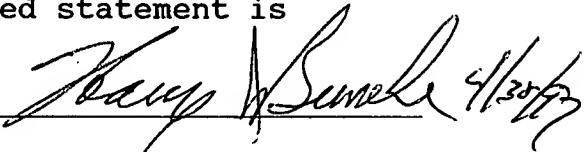
(None)

We acknowledge the duty to file, in this application, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false

statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Name of Person Signing Harry J. Buncke

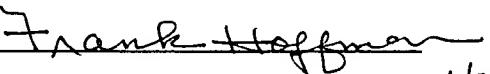
 4/30/97

Title of Person Other Than Owner _____

Address of Person Signing 1565 Kingswood Drive

Hillsborough, California 94010

Name of Person Signing Frank Hoffman

 4/30/97

Title of Person Other Than Owner _____

Address of Person Signing 1760 Willow Road

Hillsborough, California 94010